

Supervisor Romaine and Town Council Urge Federal Officials to Strengthen Bill to Protect Long Islanders from Harmful Chemicals

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Farmingville, NY – Farmingville, NY – Supervisor Ed Romaine and the Brookhaven Town Council sent a letter on January 22 (attached) to Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, as well as US Representatives Lee Zeldin and Peter King in response to the US Senate and House passage of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act for the 21st Century (Senate Bill 697). The letter, which thanked the officials for their support of the bill, also urged them to draft the final bill “to provide the strongest protection possible to protect the public from harmful chemicals,” and to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate versions.

In asking for the revisions to the bill, the letter noted that the existing law, known as the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), has not been updated since its passage in 1976. Since then, our understanding of how chemicals affect human health has grown exponentially and the vast majority of chemicals have never been evaluated for the potential harm they can do. The letter also cites the high cancer, asthma and autoimmune disease rates on Long Island, as well as the vulnerability of our sole source aquifer as points of concern due to potential chemical contamination.

The letter was signed by the Supervisor and the entire Town Council including Valerie M. Cartright, Jane Bonner, Kevin LaValle, Michael Loguercio, Neil Foley and Dan Panico.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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